solution to the problems being faced by it.

(b) Does not arise.

Fiscal Measures to make Jute goods price competitive with HDP bags

182. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to take fiscal or other measures to make jute goods competitive in prices with HDP bags;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how Government propose to keep the jute industry going on in the interest of 4 million families?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government have initiated several measures for the modernisation and diversification of the jute industry with a view to bring about a control on cost of production. The Government have also taken measures to bring down the price of raw jute. These are with a view to allow the jute goods to be competitive against other alternatives like HDPE bags.

Amongst the measures taken are:

(1) Facility for duty free import of raw jute under the Advance Licencing Scheme for export of jute goods.

(2) Facility for duty free import of a number of jute machinery items and accessories for accelerating the modernisation and diversification efforts.

(3) Several measures under the Rs.100 crores Jute Special Development Fund for improving productivity in jute agriculture.

(4) Dehoarding operation in close coordination with the Government of West Bengal to bring down the prices of raw jute.

The Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 has been enacted to protect the interest of jute growing farmers by stipulating that a minimum fixed percentage of jute materials would be used by important sectors of the economy like cement, fertilizers, sugar and foodgrains.

Undisbursed amount of World Bank and I.D.A. Loans

183. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large amount of loan from World Bank and International Development Association has remained undisbursed; and

(b) if so, what is the amount left over and what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The assistance committed by the World Bank is against specific project investments and is utilised over the entire span of the project extending between six to eight years. As new commitments are entered into each year, the undisbursed amounts get added, and tend to rise alongwith the increase in commitments. Delayed utilisation of commitments of World Bank assistance may arise due to a number of reasons including project related factors such as availability of counter-part funding, environmental and other mandatory clearances, unanticipated cost savings and technical problems. The undisbursed balance as on 31st March, 1990 totalled $ 11.7 billion.

Lok Adalats

184. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press news-item captioned "Hurdles in way of Lok Adalat selection" as reported in the Hindustan